

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 EB-07 FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00

OC-05 COME-00 BIB-01 NASA-01 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 ACDA-05

OES-03 SAJ-01 /071 W

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O 211511Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4356

INFO CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE

NAVCOMSTA NAPLES IMMEDIATE

CNO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

COMNAVTELCON WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USDOCOSOUTH

SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 17066

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, IT

SUBJ: SATELLITE GROUND TERMINAL AT LAGO DI PATRIA

REF: A) ROME 15859; DTG 311612Z OCT 75;

B) ROME 14655, DTG 091653Z OCT 75

C) COMNAVTELCON 301600Z SEP 75

1. THE CHARGE' LEFT A POINT PAPER (VERY SIMILAR TO THE ONE DESCRIBED IN REF A) WITH THE ACTING POLITICAL DIRECTOR OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THE EVENING OF 19 NOV. NIGHT OF 20 NOV., MFA NATO OFFICE CONTACTED EMBOFF WITH "COUNTER PROPOSAL" HE FELT COULD UNBLOCK MAJOR PORTION OF DELAY QUICKLY. FYI - CONFIDENTIAL

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ALL ADDRESSEES SHOULD REMEMBER THAT EACH OF THE TWO MINISTRIES

PRESENTLY BLOCKING THIS PROJECT IS DOING SO FOR DIFFERENT REASONS. THE CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTORATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION IS CONCERNED THAT THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A TALL SATELLITE GROUND TERMINAL COULD POSSIBLY INTERFERE WITH BOTH COMMUNICATIONS AND FLIGHT OPERATIONS AT THE CIVIL AIRPORT PROJECTED FOR THE LAGO DI PATRIA AREA. THE MINISTRY OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS TASKED WITH VERIFYING THAT THE FREQUENCIES WE HAVE REQUESTED WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH PRESENT FREQUENCY USES. THIS VERIFICATION INVOLVES SURVEYING ALL OTHER FREQUENCY USERS AND GETTING THEIR STATEMENTS OF NON-INTERFERENCE. THIS IS A FAIRLY STRAIGHT-FORWARD, THOUGH BUREAUCRATICALLY CUMBERSOME, PROCESS. END FYI.

2. TO ASSURE RAPID MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION EXPRESSION OF APPROVAL FOR THIS PROJECT, THE MFA PROPOSES THAT THE USG PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING GUARANTEE. FYI, THE FOLLOWING IS A VERBATIM TRANSLATION OF LANGUAGE WHICH THE MFA WILL BE SENDING IN A TELEGRAM TO THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE PROVIDED THE USG CONCURS. END FYI. QUOTE: THE AMERICAN EMBASSY HAS MADE KNOWN THAT SHOULD THE OPERATION OF THE PROJECT UNDER DISCUSSION PRODUCE UNDESIRABLE INTERFERENCE WITH THE EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION OF THE PLANNED NEW AIRPORT, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE U.S. COMMITS ITSELF TO IMMEDIATELY RECTIFY ANY SUCH INCONVENIENCE OR IF NECESSARY, TO DISMANTLE THE ANTENNA. END QUOTE.

3. COMMENT: THE MFA NATO OFFICER WAS CONVINCED THAT SUCH AN UNDERTAKING BY THE U.S. WOULD ELIMINATE ALL FEARS HELD BY THE CIVIL AVIATION PEOPLE AND WOULD LEAD TO THEIR PROMPT APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT. HE ADDED, THAT IT IS VERY DOUBTFUL THAT THIS AIRPORT WILL EVER BE BUILT AND THEREFORE THE U.S. NAVY "COULD AFFORD TO PROMISE ALMOST ANYTHING."

THE EMBASSY, TOO, WOULD BE VERY SURPRISED IF THIS AIRPORT WERE BUILT FIVE YEARS FROM NOW OR EVEN TEN YEARS FROM NOW, AND WONDERS IF THE PROJECTED TECHNOLOGICAL LIFE SPAN OF THE SATELLITE TERMINAL IS IN FACT LONGER THAN TEN YEARS.

4. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS PROMPT CONCURRENCE IN MFA GUARANTEE
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LANGUAGE. IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, MFA WOULD LIKE TO TRANSMIT THEIR TELEGRAMS BY NOON, LOCAL TIME, SATURDAY NOV. 22. THEY FEAR THAT SHOULD THEIR TRANSMISSION BE DELAYED UNTIL BEYOND NOON MONDAY, NOV. 24, THAT IT WILL BECOME IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE GOI TO MEET OUR DECEMBER 1 DEADLINE.BEAUDRY

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